

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, beginning at line 10 as follows:

The absorbent panel composed of a first fibrous assembly sub-panel lying on a side of the topsheet and having a compressive restoring elasticity and a substantially flat second fibrous assembly sub-panel underlying the first fibrous assembly sub-panel. The first fibrous assembly sub-panel has a substantially flat portion spaced upward from the second fibrous assembly sub-panel by a given dimension and a plurality of protuberant portions embossed on the flat portion toward the second fibrous assembly panel so as to bear against the second fibrous assembly sub-panel. The first fibrous assembly sub-panel has a fiber density progressively increasing toward the second fibrous assembly sub-panel. The second fibrous assembly sub-panel has a fiber density higher than that of the first fibrous assembly sub-panel.

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, beginning at line 1 as follows:

This invention includes one embodiment in which the first fibrous assembly sub-panel has a plurality of ~~protuberant~~ wall portions each extending from the flat portion toward the second fibrous assembly sub-panel but spaced from the second fibrous assembly sub-panel by a given dimension. Wall portions are provided to connect the adjacent protuberant portions with each other.

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, beginning at line 14 as follows:

In the first sub-panel 5, the protuberant portions 5b bear against the second sub-panel 6 and the flat portion 5a as well as the wall portions 5c are spaced from the second sub-panel 6 by given dimensions. The protuberant portions 5b are substantially spindle-shaped. Each wall portion 5c connects one pair of the adjacent protuberant portions 5b to each other (as best seen in Figs. 5-6). The first sub-panel 5 has a fiber density progressively increasing toward the second sub-panel 6.

Please amend the paragraph on page 17, beginning at line 12 as follows:

The body fluid absorbent wearing article according to this invention is primarily characterized in that the panel is formed by the first fibrous assembly sub-panel and the second fibrous assembly sub-panel. The first fibrous assembly sub-panel has a fiber density progressively increasing as toward the second fibrous assembly sub-panel and the second fibrous assembly sub-panel has the fiber density higher than that of the first fibrous assembly sub-panel. Such a unique arrangement ensures that the body fluids can rapidly transfer from the flat portion toward the protuberant portions of the first fibrous assembly sub-panel and then rapidly transfer to the second fibrous assembly sub-panel. In the panel, only the protuberant portions of the first sub-panel are bear against the second sub-panel so that the body fluids once having been retained in the second sub-panel are prevented from flowing back to the first sub-panel and therefore to the topsheet. In the first fibrous assembly sub-panel, the body fluids discharged onto a given area of the flat portion can rapidly spread over the entire area of the flat portion and therefore over the entire area of the first fibrous assembly sub-panel.

Abstract:

Please replace the current Abstract with the following replacement/new Abstract